

HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC, Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

Anyone with phone patch ?

Received a letter from a fellow ham in Newmarket Ontario. He is looking for someone in Thunder Bay who would allow him to do phone patches to his daughter whom will be attending University here in town. He wrote:

Dear Wayne

I'm a Ham in Newmarket (VA3BFB) and I need a favour from you. The short request is that I'm looking for a Ham in Thunder Bay who has phone patch equipment. My daughter **Alaina** is attending Lakehead University for another three years. I'm a retiring next year and hope to use my ham radio to keep in touch with Alaina. (We will also have an e-mail address). I don't have a radio yet, but will be buying an Icom 706 from a friend. I will be installing the radio on our sail boat. My wife and I are heading to the Bahamas and Caribbean as of September 1999. I know this is a fairly long lead time, but I like to be prepared. If you could please supply me with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of any of your Club Members who have a phone patch I would be very grateful.

Thank you very much **Brian King**

Brian has supplied an envelope with return address for me to respond. So if anyone can help our friend out I will send the information required. Or if you wish to reply yourself here is his address:

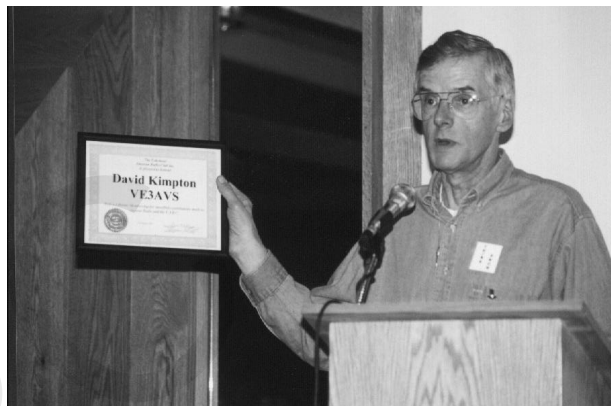
Brian King
880 Dales Ave
Newmarket Ontario
L3Y 5Z7

thank you very much, HI-Q Ed.

Java Hut Winners

March 31, 1998 Breakfast Combo with tea or coffee. Manuel, VE3MPT. April 7, 1998 Hamburger Combo with tea or coffee. Manuel, VE3MPT. April 14, 1998 French Toast Combo with tea or coffee. Manuel, VE3MPT. That had better be it for Manuel, we want our turn. He should buy a 649 ticket.

April 21, 1998 Finn Pancake Breakfast, Coffee or Tea for Two. VA3AMY, Al. Thanks and 73's Jan



New Life member and Senator

Dave Kimpton, VE3AVS is shown here after Ed Baumaun, VE3SNW presented him with his life membership and Senate-ship. I don't see any skis, congratulations de OLD ONE-BOOT

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1997/1998 LARC**Carried.****Founding President**

P. J. (Pat) O'Shea VE3FW

LARC maintains the Club call VE3FW
to honour the memory of our first
President Mr. Pat O'Shea.

Senate

Bill Roberts VE3ARN
Keith Fiske VE3JQ
Bert Lambert VE3BKY
Ray Greer VE3CH
Bill Klemacki VE3AJ

Executive Board

President:	Ian Mellis	.....	VA3RIM	.....	577-1628
Vice Pres:	Ed Baumann	.....	VE3SNW	.....	622-1216
Secretary:	Norm Bell	.....	VE3XRC	.....	577-9316
Treasurer:	John Watson	.....	VE3GTX	.....	683-3199
Directors:	Judy LeFevre	.....	VA3EAP	.....
	Sam Shonias	.....	VA3SAM	.....
	Bob Hanson	.....	VE3RVA	.....	767-6924
	Jan Sokoloski	.....	VA3JRS	.....	344-3222
Past Pres:	Terry Stewardson	....	VE3TKA	.....	577-9439

Appointments

Mem. Sec.: John Watson VE3GTX 683-3199
Hi-Q Editor: Wayne Letang VA3WRL 344-9759
Emergency Coordinator: Randy Gottfred, VA3GOT.....939-2310

Club Repeaters

VE3YQT 147.060 - OFFSET
VE3TBR 146.820 - OFFSET

Next Meeting

May 14, 1998

Meetings are held at 7:30 pm every second Thursday of each
month at Confederation College in room 207B in the
McIntyre Building.

Correspondence:

-letter from Thunder Bay Public Library re amateur publications
-letter of thanks from Sibley Ski Tour along with a donation of
\$100.00

Treasurer's Report: VE3GTX, John Watson

Balance as of February 1, 1998 \$ 1,934.70

Income:

Bank Interest	0.43
Student Fees	60.00
Donations	130.00
Annual Dinner	820.00
Call Book Ad	<u>25.00</u>
	1,035.43

Expenses:

Telephone	138.02
Il Book	481.16
Bank Service Charge	3.00
Mail Boxes Etc.	65.74
Annual Dinner	718.05
Publications	57.61
Licences	<u>96.00</u>
	1,559.58

Balance as of March 31, 1998 \$ 1,410.55

Motion: moved by VE3GTX, John Watson and seconded by
VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski that the Treasurer's report be accepted.
Carried.

Old Business:

Auditor's Report: VE3KRH, Steve Robb said the auditor's report
is on the schedule for next week.

Safety Vests: VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski reported that most of the
vests are now at the printers. Once they are back, she has to sew on
the safety tape and should be ready in about 2 weeks. The cost will
be \$ 25.00 per vest and she will call those who ordered vests when
they are ready.

Committee Reports:

Public Service: VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki
Four events are on the books for May:
-May 4, 1998, Salvation Army (5 operators)
-May 9, 1998, Royal LePage Run for Women
-May 18, 1998 10 Mile Road Race (8 operators)

Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club held in Room 207B at Confederation College, Thunder Bay, Ontario on April 9, 1998

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the President,
VA3RIM Ian Mellis with 32 members in attendance.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting held March 12, 1998 were
published in detail in the April edition of "HI-Q" and distributed to
all members.

Motion: moved by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski and seconded by
VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki that the minutes be accepted as distributed.

Don't miss a single copy of HI-Q. Send your change of address notice to the Club.

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club History Project

-May 31, 1998 Hip-Hip Walk

Emergency Coordinator: VA3GOT, Randy Gottfred. A few more applications to become ARES members have come in. We are trying to update the information so that a telephone call out tree can be set up. We have met with Richard Schutte (City Emergency Telecommunications Officer). I attended a meeting at VE3SAO (55+ Centre). ARES would have the use of the station in an emergency in return for checking out and maintaining the existing equipment.

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC): VE3PD, Pat Doherty. Not a lot going on right now, they are getting ready for the annual meeting to be held later in April.

Equipment: VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson. Still working on the 10m repeater, still needs a bit of modification on the audio, almost through the testing stage. There is a problem at times with the phone patch on VE3YQT. It is sensing that the line is busy and is airing the letters "VE". the problem is at St. Joes and will be looked into as soon as time permits. Terry wondered if we really need two phone lines, one for each repeater due to cost - food for thought.

Call Books: VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson. Money is starting to come in from both the outlying areas as well as sales to local amateurs. Out of the production of 200 books, 160 have been sent out for sale.

Field Day: VA3RIM, Ian Mellis. I will really hit it next month. we will be looking for a site close to town with some kind of shelter. No decision on a site has been made yet.

Antenna Season: VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki. As it is the season of muddy paws (if you own a dog), the snow is gone and if you haven't done it yet (had an erection), you are out of luck. With a blast of his trusty horn, Bill officially closed antenna season.

50/50 Draw: winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3SNW, Ed Baumann.

Adjournment: moved by VE3ZG, Mike

Nawrocki that the meeting be adjourned.
Carried.

Following a short break, VE3XRC Norm Bell put on a ARES presentation regarding formal traffic handling.

Public Service

by
Mike Nawrocki

The season has changed and with it comes more summery events to get involved in. We had a lay-off since March, winter sports are finished. Now it's time for the events in shorts, swimsuits, bicycles, and what ever else. Norm Bell will be, if he hasn't done so, making calls and twisting arms to assist with three events in May. The first is the Salvation Army Fund Drive on May the 4th, the Royal LePage Run for Women takes place on May 9th, and the Legion ten mile road race is on May 18th. Eric Todd, VE3XET has agreed to coordinate the Hip-hip Hooray event on May 31st, your operators from last year are gearing up and ready to go again this year Eric. We will not be around to participate or attend in early events as we will be in Southern Ontario for some medical attention. Hopefully some golf, and some rest and relaxation. See you all when we get back. 73 de VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki

An Exciting Moment

by
Sam, VA3SAM

The date of 30 March 1998 will be one of my exciting moments since I became a ham in January of 94. The day started just like any day for me. It was sunny and a very pleasant Spring day.

I have been reading the August 96 issue of the QST magazine for past few days. The article on The W3KH Quadrifilar Helix Antenna which has had held my attention for quite a while.

I had all the materials on hand to complete this antenna project. From start to finish, I had taken about two hours to finish including the tuning. I did not have to prune the elements at all. The SWR is 1.3:1 from 144.200 to 146.500. I was indeed very pleased with myself.

I was full of anticipation of the upcoming MIR space station pass in the evening. I was not successful on the first nor second pass, and was getting disconnect frames and getting ***R0MIR-1 busy.

I have been attempting to connect with MIR for last two weeks using a quarter wave ground plane antenna which was also home-brew. So I was thinking other stations were using multi-element yagi antennas and azimuth/elevation rotators. I thought that I would not be able to compete with the big guns.

The MIR space station was approaching Winnipeg, and I was not getting a downlink signal yet. All of a sudden, I had seen a VE6 station attempting a connect, and signal was getting stronger by the second. The pass would be going just North of Gull Bay.

Shortly after 0509Z on 31 March, I sent a C R0MIR-1. At 05:09:27, I received ***Connected to R0MIR-1 [KPC9612P-8.1-HM\$] 71401 Bytes Available. There are 28 messages numbered 1298-1330. Enter Command: B, J, K, L, R, S, or Help. I sent a SP R0MIR, and few moments later; I was prompted with a SUBJECT: and entered "Greetings". Then I was prompted with Enter Message 1331- End with CTRL-Z or /EX.

I sent the following text " Keep up your great work. Have a safe journey, and

wish for your safe return. 73 de Sam", and ended the message with a /EX.

I almost fell off my chair when I received the message on my monitor Message Saved [03/31/98 05:10:30] and Enter Command: B, J, K, L, R, S, or Help >. As a final keystroke, I sent a B(ye) and almost immediately ***Disconnected [03/31/98 05:10:33].

So you can see that you do not need a mega station to work MIR. I was using an Icom 275H at about 30 watts, QHA at 15 feet above ground level with 22 feet of Belden 9913 feedline. The terminal unit is MFJ-1278B, and software is MFJ Multicom for Windows v1.1. The computer is an IBM clone 486SX, and tracking program is Instanttrack v1.00.

My amateur radio station is mostly configured to operate HF Packet and Pactor. I have been downloading the latest Keplerian elements from a PBBS operated by Burt Amero, VE1AMA in Auburn, NS on a weekly basis.

The frequency of the MIR space station is 145.985 FM Simplex, and I am informed that the three hams aboard are reading all the messages sent by ground stations but are not able to answer all messages due to the workload aboard the MIR. The astronauts/comonauts have been known to operate phone on this frequency, too.

Update At 0207Z on 03 Apr 98, I made another successful connect with R0MIR-1. The message #1331 is no longer listed, and has read and deleted. I had successfully downloaded the latest Keplerian elements in the NASA 2-line format. The new elements dated 02 April have been loaded into my tracking program.

So there you have it, and MIR is not out of reach to modest setups like my station. I had since turned down the power to 20 watts and still have successful connects. I am sure that you will be competing with a lots of stations trying to connect with MIR. I have seen three or four connects during a favourable pass.

I would like to see familiar call-signs attempting connects with MIR especially from hams in the city of Thunder Bay. If anyone has any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me whenever I am in Thunder Bay. I will also

be more that willing to provide the QHA plans, and assist in the construction of the antenna.

I have left a copy of the plans with Wayne, VA3WRL, and a ASCII text file of the exchange of R0MIR-1 and my amateur radio station on 03 April at 0207Z.

73 de Sam.

HAM PUZZLER

By Dave VEAWS

Unscramble the four jumbled words. Then arrange the shaded letters to form a word or words associated with the call sign shown below. Answer in next month HI-Q.

V A 3 A M Y

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

LESAVV							

TJUASD							

EETHRA							

ANCRIG							

March answers: VACUUM, POWER, RAISED, ROTATE
VA3RIM = WOODCARVER
See you all next month....73.

From: Jim Dean VE3IQ

Date: April 27th, 1998

Subject:

**AMATEUR'S LICENCE
SUSPENDED FOR WILLFUL
INTERFERENCE**

RAC has been informed that Industry Canada has suspended the licence of a Central Ontario amateur for six months. The suspension followed an investigation by the Department into complaints by amateurs about malicious interference on 2 Metre repeaters spanning a period of more than two years. The repeater users played a major role in the investigation by collecting evidence and assisting in identifying the offender. Industry Canada has advised that the amateur cannot be named because the information concerning the suspension relates to a matter between a private individual and the Government of Canada. Since it is considered personal information, it is protected under the Privacy Act. The amateur could have been identified only if Court documents had been filed and the case thus had become part of the public record. RAC appreciates the action taken by Industry Canada to resolve this interference problem.

Guy Charron VA3FZA

Bulletin Editor

Radio Amateurs of Canada

Email: va3fza@rac.ca

Packet: va3fza@ve3kyt

Hey did I tell you I love bananas because they have no bones ?

RAC Report

By

Pat Doherty - Director - Ontario North
May 1998

Radio Amateurs of Canada will hold its annual meeting at Arnprior, Ontario May 21 to May 24, 1998. This is the site of a former military base that is presently used for emergency training. Using this site reduces the cost of the annual meeting by \$8,000.00 and in this time of reduced funding it is a significant saving. The accommodations may be spartan but I understand the food is excellent.

One of the areas that will be studied at the meetings will be Field Services (emergency preparedness etc). In the past it has been primarily a mirror reflection of the way it is set up in the United States. Doug Leach, RAC Vice President has prepared a report to be reviewed by the board. All areas will be looked at from Field Services Manager and down the ladder. RAC needs to get a comprehensive document in place to regulate the inter action between RAC and its Field Services. El Nino and its effects in Southern Ontario and Quebec has really brought emergency preparedness to the fore front.

Another area that will be studied is the pressure by commercial interests on the VHF/UHF and higher bands. In some countries governments have made inroads in amateur frequencies, arbitrarily enacting regulations that removed them from amateur service. With the advent of satellite communications, cellular, PCS and all the new technologies being developed those "useless" frequencies allocated a long time ago to the amateur community all of sudden become cash cows that mean extended revenues for governments. Companies are spending billions of dollars to populate space with Low Orbiting Satellites to take advantage of these frequencies. It is a difficult fight as Industry Canada is not pro amateur, they have their sights set on bigger fish than us. Amateur technologies (digital radio, spread spectrum) will have to change to allow efficient use of the frequencies that will be left to us.

There is some indication that in the future HF frequencies will be expanded, third world countries are using less of that spectrum and studies done in the US show that there are frequencies available for amateur use. I don't know that we will ever go back to the primary HF roots of amateur radio in the past, but there is every likelihood that it will become a more important part of amateur radio. It is still the primary means for world wide communication by amateurs.....30

Another Winner at the Java Hut !

The winner for April 28, 1998 Java Hut Gift Certificate is
VA3TBA Chris Chadwick.
He won a hamburger nip and coffee or tea.
Thanks Wayne.
73's Jan VA3JRS

Swap \$ Shop

Check out the North Ontario Swap & shop Page that Pat Doherty has set up.
The www address is:
"www.tbaytel.net/pdoherty/nontsale.htm"

What's Billy up to now ?

What is a tree-frog?

Who is a tree-frog?

For the answer, come out to the May 14th meeting! 73 Billy, VE3AJ

What do you think of this ?

We are building a network of linked ground stations to provide almost continuous coverage for some of the Amateur Satellites. The idea is that these stations use only OMNI antennas and operate unattended 24 hours a day worldwide and are linked by the Internet so that any packets heard by ANY station are all merged together into a single Internet stream of raw packets for everyone. This allows the satellite operators to manage their satellites by monitoring their downlink even when they are out of range of their own station. It also lets hams on one continent see how the same satellite is used over the other continents.

The Internet side of this capability written by K4HG is working fine and has been on line for more than a year. It has demonstrated being able to handle over 2 dozen simultaneous 1200 baud packet feeds and at least 150 simultaneous users without even a slow down. This example system is the worldwide APRS server. To see its raw packets, TELNET to 199.227.86.221 port 23.

Steve is now building another system JUST for Amateur satellites. It is temporarily on 199.227.86.221 port 10001. Here is what we need:

* Good dedicated and knowledgeable stations with dedicated 24 hour inter-net access. One per footprint, per band, per satellite. All you need is a minimum dumb-terminal TELNET access and any DOS machine or, any TCPIP Internet service and Windows or Mac.

* Dial-up access is OK if you want to bother with having to man-up for every pass. This is fine for special SAREX events, etc.

At this early stage, we do have one site on the USA east coast (The Naval Academy) that is feeding MIR packets to its own WEB page and to the Miami server. Its WEB page captures the last days worth of packets from each pass of MIR. (OOPS, last night we did not have MCOM on, so it only

captured UI frames and not all the other CONNECT-REQUEST/BUSY packets)

<http://web.usna.navy.mil/~bruninga/mirex.html>

SAREX and MIREX are the easiest. Next would be DOVE when it comes back to life. The 1200 baud pacsats are IDEAL but require automatic control software to acquire unattended. This is where we really need the AMSAT expertise. We will have to gradually ease into the 9600 baud pacsats, however, due to their verbosity...

A few stations have already responded and are looking into setting up stations in Mexico, Chicago, Taiwan, and Madrid. If you are interested in setting up such a ground station, please check out the web page and/or the raw TNC stream.

You may feel that omni antennas are not sufficient, but remember, each station does not need to see all packets horizon to horizon. It is not important that each station hear every packet, what counts is that at least ONE station out of the SUM of all stations heard the packet at least once. Then EVERYONE gets it via the Internet link. Steve's central server removes all dupes.

This greatly simplifies the demands on each station individually. No complex antenna tracking and wear and tear on mechanical systems. Using only OMNI antennas cuts the usable footprint per station in about half (6 dB), but all that means is that we need 6 stations in the whole USA instead of just 2. Still quite easy to do...

Lots of potential here folks...

de WB4APR (bob), and K4HG (steve)

Waynos' glossary of absoulutly wonderful Electronic terms

Q-multiplier-A special filter which has a sharply-peaked response curve or a deep rejection notch at a particular frequency.

Q-band-A band of frequencies extending from 36 to 46 Ghz, corresponding to wave lengths of 0.834 to 0.652 cm.

Radio fadeout-Also called the Dellinger effect. The partial or complete absorption of substantially all radio waves normally reflected by the ionospheric layers in or above the E-region.

What a teacher

Randy that's who. On April 29th, 1998 Randy ,VA3GOT had the pleasure of showing the cubs of the Ponderosa's 1st Cub Pack how an Amateur Radio station is set and how it works. Randy explained the basic fundamentals on how radio wave travel from one place to another, how repeaters work, what kind of antennas we were using etc. Anna belle, VE3XAW, Dwayne, VE3DZR, and Fred, VE3FAL on CW had a chat with Randy and the Cubs on 80 meters. Sam, VA3SAM from Gull Bay also was talking to Randy and the group. Everyone had their chance to talk on 2 metre simplex as Randy and I "Wayne, VA3WRL" allowed them have some fun on the radios. I think we sparked some interest for some future Hams. 73 de HI-Q Ed.

On Air Events May

2-3 ARI International DX Contest

2-3 Connecticut QSO Party

2-3 Danish SSTV Contest

2-3 MARAC County Hunters CW Contest

2-3 Massachusetts QSO Party

2-3 Ten-Ten International Net Spring CW QSO Party

9 ARRL VHF/UHF Spring Sprint, 902/1296/2304 MHz

9 Fists CW Club Spring Sprint

9-10 A. Volta RTTY Contest

9-10 CQ-M International DX Contest

9-10 Indiana QSO Party

9-10 Nevada QSO Party

9-10 Oregon QSO Party

16 EU Spring Sprint CW

16-17 Baltic Contest (Lithuania)

16-17 ARRL VHF/UHF Spring Sprint, 50 MHz

for more information, please read TCA or QST.

RAC does not necessarily endorse, support or vouch for the accuracy of the information provided.

Guy Charron VA3FZA
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*Tnx agn fer all submissions. 73 de
VA3WRL, Wayne HI-Q Ed.*